



NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

DM21/1215

BARNES & THORNBURG
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/101,864	07/21/98	012	FOSTER, J	3728 12/15/99
First Named Applicant	CAVANAGH,			

TITLE OF INVENTION
CONTAINER FOR SHARP INSTRUMENTS

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEES DUE	DATE DUE
3 20253-60398	206-352.000	F61	UTILITY	YES	\$605.00	03/15

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT.
PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.
Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 09/101,864	Applicant(s) Cavanagh
	Examiner J. Foster	Group Art Unit 3728

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on Dec. 13, 1999.

The allowed claim(s) is/are 2, 4-11, 15, 19, and 20.

The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 8.

including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

- Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Art Unit: 3728

EXAMINER'S COMMENT

Claims once canceled may not be re-entered. Accordingly the claim 16 presented by Applicant has been treated and entered as a new claim. Under 37 CFR 1.126, claim 16 will be entered as being claim 19, and the claim 19 submitted by Applicant will be entered as being claim 20. The indication of allowable claims on the Notice of Allowability, PTOL 37, will reflect this renumbering. Of course, all of the claims will be finally renumbered one more time for their printing on the patent.

To insure timely handling of correspondence after allowance, it should be filed with the address **BOX ISSUE FEE**.

For contacting the PTO by phone, the following contact numbers may be used:

For tracking of papers and association of papers with cases --
(Papers addressed **BOX ISSUE FEE**)
Customer Service. . . (703)308-6789
(Papers addressed to Art Unit 3728 or TC 3700) -- Clerical supervisors:
Ebony Smith (703)305-3570
For Drafting Problems . . . (703)305-8335
For matters regarding examination -- Examiner:
Jim Foster (703)308-1505
For petitions:
Before the Examiner . (703)308-1505
Before the Director . (703)308-3872
Other petitions . . . (703)305-9282


JIMMY G. FOSTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 3720
[Signature]

JGF
December 13, 1999